

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph.

[0017] The nanotubes obtained by the methods of the invention are perfect in shape and of high crystallinity ~~eristallinity~~ and may be 0.2-20 micron long or more. For the sake of convenience, the nanotubes of the invention shorter than 0.5 microns are sometimes herein in the specification referred to as "short" nanotubes to distinguish them from the longer nanotubes.